

Wilson Fights for Summitville Tiles

WASHINGTON, DC – Today Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) met with high level representatives of the U.S. Army and the Army Corps of Engineers in an effort to drill down on how a local company was left out of the bidding process on a multi-million dollar school construction project. The concern was that the U.S. Army accepted a bid from Feldhaus, a German company, without allowing Summitville Tiles, a 100-year-old ceramic tile and brick company located in Summitville, Ohio, to bid for the same project.

Today's meeting was in response to the letter of inquiry that Congressman Wilson sent to Army Secretary, John McHugh on November 24, 2009.

At the meeting, representatives from the U.S. Army confirmed that the Fort Bragg AFB Elementary School project was awarded to a general contractor who ultimately had the responsibility to hire the subcontractors. Feldhaus is a subcontractor.

"Though the general contractor awarded the work to a subcontractor in this situation, I still strongly believe that the Army should be better about ensuring that American companies are given a fair shake," Wilson said. "This experience with Summitville Tiles has reinforced my strong belief that American companies should be supported at all levels of federal contracting. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that we have better oversight of such contracts in the future."

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